Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 02100 031240Z

53
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-05 SY-04 ACDA-05 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 /064 W
---------- 005090
O P 031142Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9182
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 2100

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS CB
SUBJECT: THIRTY-THIRD AND THIRTY-FOURTH DAYS OF KC DRY SEASON OFFENSIVE

REF: PHNOM PENH 2010

1. SUMMARY. A DOWN RIVER MEKONG CONVOY FROM PHNOM PENH CROSSED INTO SOUTH VIETNAM EARLY FEBRUARY 3 BUT SEVERAL SHIPS WERE REPORTED LOST OR DAMAGED EN ROUTE. THE KC CONTINUE TO ROCKET PHNOM PENH AND POCHENTONG AIRFIELD BUT WITH SOMEWHAT DIMINISHED INTENSITY WHICH MAY BE DUE TO FANK GROUND AND AIR OPERATIONS. THE ENEMY BURNED A REFUGEE CAMP AT A PROVINCIAL CAPITAL NEAR PHNOM PENH, BUT FRIENDLY FORCES REACTED QUICKLY. THE KC PRESSURE ON THE 7TH DIVISION AREA NORTHWEST OF PHNOM PENH CONTINUES, WHILE FANK REPORTS KILLING 105 ENEMY SOLDIERS ON AN ISLAND NORTHEST OF THE CITY. END SUMMARY.

2. A MEKONG RIVER CONVOY LEFT PHNOM PENH LATE FEB 2 AND CROSSED INTO SOUTH VIETNAM EARLY THE FOLLOWING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 02100 031240Z

DAY. THE DOWN RIVER CONVOY WAS ESCORTED BY 28 MNK

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

VESSELS AND CONSISTED OF EIGHT TUGS, TWO TANKERS,
FOUR AMMUNITION BARGES AND THREE USAID BARGES. THE
CONVOY RAN INTO CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY BETWEEN NEAK
LUONG AND THE BORDER. ONE TUG WAS BEACHED AND SEVEN
OF ITS CREW WERE WOUNDED, THREE SERIOUSLY. AN EMPTY
OIL TANKER THEN WENT AGROUND AND WAS HIT BY RECOILLESS
RIFLE AND ROCKET FIRE. THE CREW ESCAPTED WITHOUT INJURY
BUT THERE IS REPORTEDLY A BLAZING FIRE ON THE TANKER.
A LATER REPORT HAS TWO MORE TUGS SUNK, WITH THIRTEEN
CREW MEMBERS WOUNDED. WE ARE AWAITING MORE DEFINITIVE
INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS.

3. THE KC ON FEB 2 FIRED THIRTEEN 107MM ROCKETS AT
PHNOM PENH AND POCHENTONG (MOST DIRECTED AT THE LATTER)
REPORTEDLY CAUSING NO DAMAGE TO THE AIRFIELD BUT KILLING
TWO PERSONS AND WOUNDING SEVENTEEN. THUS FAR TODAY,
FEB 3, NO ROCKET ATTACKS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. THE LEVEL
OF THE SHELLING SEEMS TO HAVE DIMINISHED SOMEWHAT OVER
THE PAST TWO DAYS; THIS MAY BE DUE IN PART TO THE
ONGOING FANK OPERATION NORTHWEST OF THE CAPITAL IN THE
LOCATION FROM WHICH THE ROCKETS ARE FIRED. KHMER
AIR FORCE BOMBING RAIDS HAVE RESULTED IN SEVERAL PROLONGED
SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS IN THIS AREA.

4. THE KC ON FEB 1-2 ATTACKED MANY POSITIONS AROUND
THE PROVINCIAL CAPTIAL OF KOMPONG SPEU, FORTH KILOMETERS
WEST OF PHNOM PENH ON ROUTE 4, AND BURNED A REFUGEE CAMP.
THE VOLUNTARY AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CAMP, CATHOLIC
RELIEF SERVICE, REPORTS THAT TWELVE REFUGEES WERE KILLED,
SEVEN WOUNDED, AND SIXTY-ONE TEN-FAMILY DWELLINGS WERE
DESTROYED. FANK CONDUCTED CLEARING OPERATIONS ON FEB 2
AROUND KOMPONG SPEU AND REPORTED KILLING 32 KC AND
CAPTURING VARIOUS WEAPONS.

5. AS REPORTEDLY PREVIOUSLY, THE 7TH DIVISION AREA NORTHWEST
OF PHNOM PENH IS THE ONE OF MOST CONCERN AT PRESENT
AROUND PHNOM PENH. ENEMY PRESSURE CONTINUES AND ALTHOUGH
THE DIVISION POSITIONS ARE HOLDING, THE KC PRESENCE AND
POTENTIAL IN THE AREA IS REPORTED TO BE CONSIDERABLE.
NORTHEAST OF THE CITY, HOWEVER, FANK IS DOING BETTER.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PHNOM 02100 031240Z

IT REPORTS KILLING 105 KC ON KOH DACH ISLAND FEB 1. THE
ISLAND IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT LIES ALONG THE NORTHEASTERN
APPROACH TO THE CAPITAL AND HAS BEEN THE SCENE OF
CONSIDERABLE FIGHTING BACK AND FORTH DURING THE COURSE
OF THE OFFENSIVE.
DEAN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT ZONES, COMBAT CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PHNOM02100
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750038-0672
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750277/aaaacrvp.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PHNOM PENH 2010
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THIRTY-THIRD AND THIRTY-FOURTH DAYS OF KC DRY SEASON OFFENSIVE
TAGS: MOPS, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006